(b) whether it is a fact that the above two clauses allow any favoured person and pre-selected person to get SEZ clearances;

(c) if so, what steps would be taken to amend or suspend those two clauses, to ensure that SEZ are not given to people with no standing; and

(d) the steps proposed to ban private companies and people from exploiting these clauses, to corner thousands of areas of land next to cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The provisions in Section 3(1) and 3(2) of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 are regarding 'Procedure for making proposal to establish Special Economic Zone' (SEZ). The detailed procedure in this regard is prescribed in the Special Economic Zone Rules, 2006. The application in prescribed proforrna, along with the detailed Project report and Check List prescribed, which contains the financial details and background of the promoters, is considered by the 19 Member Board of Approval. All decisions in the BoA are taken by consensus.

Declaring some UTs as SEZs

2434. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals to declare some Union Territories as Special Economic zones (SEZ) in toto;

(b) if so, the details of this novel scheme;

(c) the Union Territories under consideration for this purpose;

(d) whether concurrence of such Union Territories has been taken; and

(e) the Union Territories which have sought States for their entire geographical areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.